

App. No. 09/800,231
Amendment

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested. The specification has been amended to update the references to the U.S. patent applications in the paragraph beginning on line 7, page 1, and in the paragraph beginning on line 15, page 7. Claims 5, 7, 9-14, 16, 22, 24-30, 38, 40 and 42 have been amended, and claims 1-4, 20, 21, and 34-37 have been canceled without prejudice. Therefore, claims 5-19, 22-33, and 38-43 are pending in the application.

Petition for Three-Month Extension of Time

A Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time is included herewith to extend the period for response to December 3, 2004. A Fee Transmittal is included herewith to cover the fee for the three-month extension of time.

Objections to the Specification

The specification has been amended to update the references to the U.S. patent applications as requested by the Examiner.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 5, 6, 10, 22, 23, 26, 38 and 39 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has rewritten claims 5, 10, 22, 26, and 38 in independent form to include the limitations of the base claims

App. No. 09/800,231
Amendment

and all intervening claims. As such, the five independent claims 5, 10, 22, 26 and 38 are now in a condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 7-9, 11-12, 16-21, 24-25, 27-37, and 40-41 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,408,169 (Pallonen). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Applicant has canceled claims 1-4 without prejudice, and has rewritten claim 5 in independent form to include base claim 1 and intervening claims 2-4, which the Examiner has indicated would be allowable. Claims 6-9 and 11-19 are now all dependent on claim 5, placing all in condition for allowance. Applicant has rewritten claim 10 in independent form to include base claim 1 and intervening claims 2, 3, and 9, which the Examiner has indicated would be allowable. Applicant has canceled claims 20-21 without prejudice, and has rewritten claim 22 in independent form to include base claim 20 and intervening claim 21, which the Examiner has indicated would be allowable. Claims 23-25 and 27-33 are now all dependent on claim 22, placing all in condition for allowance. Applicant has rewritten claim 26 in independent form to include base claim 20 and intervening claim 25, which the Examiner has indicated would be allowable. Applicant has canceled claims 34-37 without prejudice, and has rewritten claim 38 in independent form to include base claim 34 and intervening claims 35-37, which the Examiner has indicated would be allowable. Claims 39-43 are now all dependent on claim 38, placing all in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicant submits that all claims 5-19, 22-33, and 38-43 as amended are now

-17-

App. No. 09/800,231
Amendment

in a condition for allowance.

Fees Believed to be Due

When this application was filed a fee was paid for a total of 43 claims with 3 claims being independent claims. The above amendment results in there being a total of 31 claims with 5 claims being independent claims. Thus, a fee for the two additional independent claims is due.

A Fee transmittal is included herewith to cover the additional independent claims and the three-month extension of time referred to above.

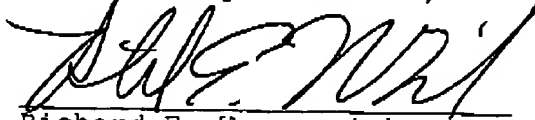
CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Should there remain any outstanding issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Richard E. Wawrzyniak at (858)552-1311 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Date:

11/30/04

Respectfully submitted,



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-18-